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Introduced by Senator De León

August 7, 2012

Senate Resolution No. 35—Relative to Mayan Culture Day.

WHEREAS, The State of California celebrates the impact of Mayan culture within the state and throughout the world, and recognizes the rights of the Maya community as a distinct and valuable indigenous people, as recommended in the United Nations resolution 49/214; and

WHEREAS, Casa de la Cultura Maya has a strong history of passing on the rich legacy of Maya traditions and customs to future generations, expanding the public's understanding of the superb and advanced knowledge of the Maya in science and mathematics, and showing the exquisite level of artistic talent in the ancient and living Mayan culture; and

WHEREAS, Maya communities have survived for thousands of years and preserved for future generations the Maya's ancestral traditions, respect for the Earth, and deep appreciation for science, art, architecture, and human spirituality and cultural expression, including the Maya understanding of the origin and destiny of humanity; and

WHEREAS, The Maya community within the State of California thrives and strengthens the state by contributing to its economy and cultural depth; and

WHEREAS, Mayan Culture Day is celebrated on the day of the Mayan Calendar Aqaba 1, which means the aurora and the dawn; it is the right hand; it is the light from the darkness; it is the three passages of time: past, present, and future. It is the day of clarity; it is the day of the fire; the heat that allows us to get, to view, to

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1 achieve, and to follow. It is the day to love life; now, therefore, be 2 it

3 Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate 4 recognizes August 12, 2012, as Mayan Culture Day; and be it 5 further

Resolved, That the Senate reaffirms its commitment to preserve, defend, and promote the traditions and ancestral legacy of the Maya; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate urges the people of California to observe Mayan Culture Day with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.